

REMARKS

Claims 22-39 are pending in this application. Claims 1-21 have been canceled. Claims 22-39 have been added.

The above amendments do not add new matter to the disclosure. Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Esther H. Chong (Reg. No. 40,953) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By  #39,538
Joseph A. Kolasch, #22,463

JAK/EHC:lmh
2950-0167P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000